

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, US, NATO

SUBJ: PRMIN IRMAK COMMENTS ON AID CUTOFF AND NATO

PRIMIN IRMAK, AFTER A THREE-HOUR CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 12 WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF MAJOR PARTIES AND LEADERS OF THE CONTINGENT AND LIFE SENATOR GROUPS, TOLD JOURNALISTS THERE WERE NO DIFFERENCES OF OPINION AMONG THE POLITICAL PARTIES ON TURKEY'S BASIC FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. HE ALSO DISCUSSED THE CUT OFF OF AMERICAN AID AND TURKISH RELATIONS WITH NATO. PRINCIPAL POINTS MADE BY IRMAK WERE:

A. TURKISH-US RELATIONS. "OUR GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN COMPELLED TO REVISE THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE US IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW SITUATION. WE DO NOT AND CANNOT FEEL THAT IT IS THE SINCERE CONVICTION OF THE AMERICAN NATION THAT AGREEMENTS SHOULD BE UNILATERALLY DENOUNCED."

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B. TURKISH-NATO RELATIONS. "IT HAS ALSO BECOME IMPERATIVE

FOR TURKEY, WHOSE DEFENSE FORCE WILL BE WEAKENED (BY THE AID CUTOFF), TO REVISE ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATO IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW CONDITIONS."

MACOMBER

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